



Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

Secretary Sheriff Robert “Bob” Mosier

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of Commonwealth Government to provide for the safety and well-being of Commonwealth citizens and ensure the continuity of Commonwealth government operations, including the delivery of essential government services during a disaster. The Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP) assigns specific responsibilities to agencies and offices to ensure the Commonwealth is able to meet this responsibility. Commonwealth agencies and institutions of higher education (IHEs) must be prepared to implement their own agency’s emergency plans and execute their duties as assigned in the COVEOP, hazard specific annexes, and support plans. *COVEOP 2021*

INDIVIDUAL SECRETARIAT RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Secretariat is responsible for ensuring their agencies and offices are: (1) meeting their statutory obligations for emergency preparedness, (2) prepared and able to implement their agency continuity plans, and (3) prepared and able to execute the duties assigned to them in the COVEOP and all-hazards annexes.

THE PUBLIC SAFETY and HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARIAT

Comprised of ten agencies, this Secretariat assists the Governor in the development and implementation of public safety and homeland security policies. The Secretariat supports the Governor’s strategic priorities of building a safer more resilient Virginia through four established pillars of interagency collaboration: all-hazards emergency support, reducing recidivism, preventing gun violence, and smart policing. During all-hazards events, the Secretariat provides elements of security across the response spectrum to ensure safety prior to, during, and after an event or disaster.



Your Supporting Agencies:



Virginia State Police



Virginia Department of Corrections



Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control



Virginia Department of Fire Programs



Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice



Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services



Virginia Department of Emergency Management



Commonwealth's Attorney's Services Council



Virginia Department of Forensic Science



Virginia Parole Board

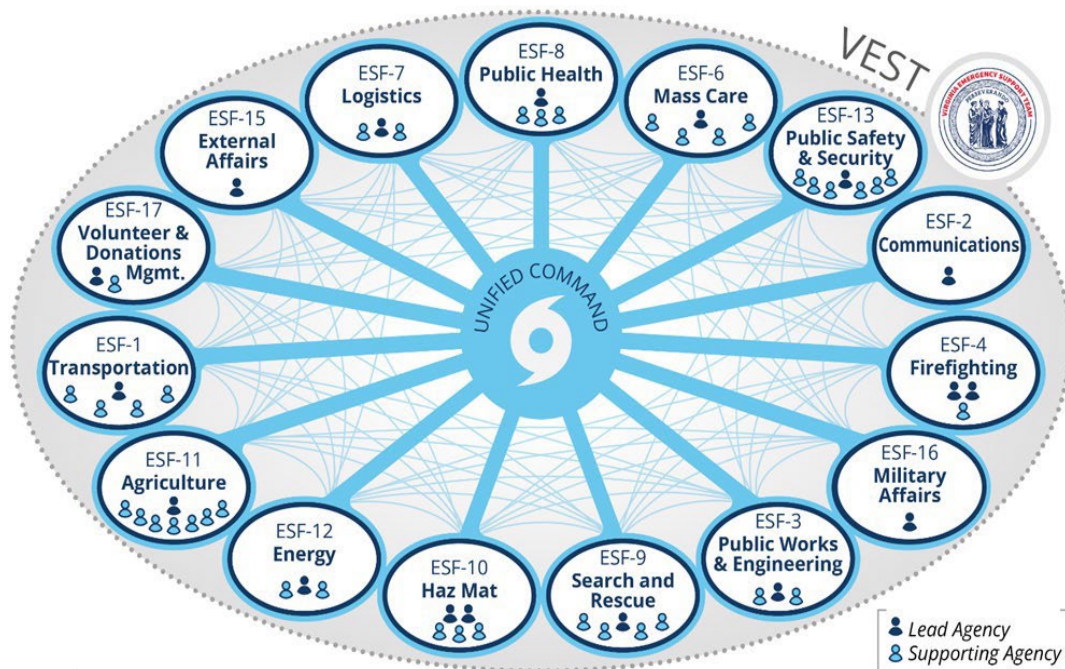


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THE VIRGINIA EMERGENCY SUPPORT TEAM (VEST)

Comprised of Commonwealth agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private sector companies, the VEST supports all ten Cabinet Secretaries in meeting their statutory emergency management responsibilities. Command and General Staff and 17 Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) are activated through four levels to meet emergency needs, incidents that exceed local capacities, or when incidents span multiple VDEM Regions.



VEST ACTIVATION LEVELS

CONDITION GREEN
Steady State

CONDITION YELLOW
Activated Monitoring

CONDITION ORANGE
Partially Activated

CONDITION RED
Fully Activated

Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) group governmental and certain private sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, program implementation and services that are most likely needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal following incidents. Each ESF has a Lead Agency and Supporting Agencies that collaborate to execute their responsibilities.

For more information, please go to <https://www.vaemergency.gov/2022-cabinet-exercise/> to review: 1) COVEOP, 2) Secretariat emergency management responsibilities per COVEOP, agency, and emergency support function, 3) Governor’s Cabinet emergency management overview, and 4) individual Cabinet Secretary emergency management overview and construct.

Your Supporting ESFs, Agencies, and Function:

1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	17
		ESF 1 Transportation											
		ESF 2 Communications											
		ESF 4 Firefighting											LEAD
		ESF 5 EM/Command and General Staff											LEAD
		ESF 6 Mass Care											
		ESF 7 Logistics and Resource Support											LEAD
		ESF 8 Public Health											
		ESF 9 Search & Rescue											LEAD
 		ESF 10 Oil & Hazardous Materials											LEAD
		ESF 11 Agriculture and Natural Resources											
		ESF 12 Energy											LEAD
		ESF 13 Public Safety and Security											LEAD
		ESF 15 External Affairs											LEAD
		ESF 17 Volunteer & Donations Management											LEAD



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linkedin.com/company/virginia-department-of-emergency-management/

- their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9 SECRETARY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY

7.1.4.9.1 Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Authority (VABC)

The Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Authority is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.

- Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 13 Public Safety and Security**
 - Support requests for public safety and security from the Virginia Department of State Police that are within the agency's capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols, and statutes as required.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.2 Department of Corrections (DOC)

The Department of Corrections is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 4 Firefighting**
 - Provide personnel, to include inmates within security limitations for support of fire suppression operations.
- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 7 Logistics**
 - Provide staffing for the Logistics Section and provide resources when applicable.
- **ESF 13 Public Safety and Security**
 - Support requests for public safety and security from the Virginia Department of

State Police that are within the agency's capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols, and statutes as required.

- **ESF 15 External Affairs**

- Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
- Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
- Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.3 Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)

The Department of Criminal Justice Services is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**

- Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
- Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
- Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
- Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.

- **ESF 6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Human Services and Housing Referral**

- Provide support as directed and as outlined in the Commonwealth Family Assistance Center plan.

- **ESF 7 Logistics**

- Provide staffing for the Logistics Section.

- **ESF 15 External Affairs**

- Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
- Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
- Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.4 Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management is assigned the following duties:

- **Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)**

- Maintain the Virginia Emergency Operations Center, the facility from which the

VEST coordinates and responds to incidents. The VEOC is home to the Situational Awareness Unit (SAU) on and the VEST, when augmented.

- **Situational Awareness Unit (SAU)**
 - The SAU, staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, coordinates day-to-day situational awareness, receives, and issues alerts and warnings, supports resource management, operational planning, reporting, and external emergency communications for Virginia's state and local emergency response agencies, federal agencies, and private sector partners.
- **VDEM Regional Support Divisions**
 - Deploy, as needed, VDEM regional staff to assist at the state emergency operations center, regional coordination centers, or local emergency operations centers to support state and local response or recovery operations.
 - Ensure Regional Support Divisions collaborate with localities and other stakeholders in the development of regional coordination plans.
- **ESF 2 Communication**
 - Coordinate with VITA the information flow regarding the status of communications and infrastructure between the VEOC and information technology programs and/ or telecommunications service providers.
 - Assist and coordinate with the ITP and private sector telecommunications carriers to ensure the provision/restoration of communications and IT services, as required.
 - Coordinate state communications assets, including wired and wireless assets and communications caches.
 - Provide Communications Unit Leader to serve as ESF-2 Lead.
- **ESF 3 Public Works and Engineering**
 - Provide appropriate training and tools to help local and state agencies implement a debris management process and to prepare for the cost recovery processes required by FEMA.
 - Establish and coordinate the debris assessment and removal process following a disaster.
 - Develop a list of potential local, state, and federal contacts who may serve on the interagency, multi-disciplinary debris storage and reduction site selection teams.
 - Coordinate with the appropriate regulatory agencies regarding potential issues that may arise during disaster response and recovery and their possible resolution.
 - Assist state agencies, local governments, and other eligible applicants in the preparation and submission of federal disaster assistance grant applications.
- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information, And Planning**
 - Provide the informational link for VEOC operations and serve as the centralized repository for the receipt and analysis of local situation reports.
 - Provide communication (i.e. situational report) to all state agency Emergency Management Coordinators and VEST Liaison Officers and alternates on an at

least daily basis when EOC is activated.

- Provide a centralized location, the Virginia Emergency Operations Center, from which the governor or designee can coordinate emergency response and recovery operations.
 - Coordinate, activate, and direct state assets and capabilities to respond to an incident or hazard, and coordinate with local and tribal governments and other appropriate entities. This includes assets managed by VDEM established through agreements as authorized by § 44-146.18 of the *Code of Virginia* that are not otherwise controlled by another ESF. Examples of assets: Regional Incident Management Teams, State Incident Management Team, and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Teams.
 - Coordinate planning activities including immediate, short-term, and long-range planning.
 - Develop, implement, and document implementation priorities, response planning, and operations planning.
 - Coordinate operations, activation, and deployment of resources and assets.
 - Coordinate overall VEST staffing at appropriate facilities.
 - Activate the AEW for staff augmentation to support operations.
- **ESF 6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Human Services, and Housing Referral**
 - Provide leadership and support as outlined in the Commonwealth Family Assistance Center plan.
 - Coordinate VDEM's agency responsibilities assigned in the Commonwealth of Virginia State Coordinated Regional Shelter Plan.
 - Provide an Access and Functional Needs Coordinator for state mass care sites.
- **ESF 7 Logistics**
 - Assist local governments and state agencies with the provision of essential resources when requested via logistics programs (Statewide Mutual Aid, Emergency Management Assistance Compact, request management processes, procurement, etc.).
 - Manage disaster services contracts for goods and services.
 - Assists in the development of and provide support for resource and logistical requirements to support recovery efforts.
 - Provide staffing for the Logistics Section.
- **ESF 8 Public Health and Medical**
 - Provide guidance and technical support on ensuring equal access and assisting individuals with access and functional needs.
- **ESF 9 Special Operations**
 - Coordinate SAR efforts statewide to include the deployment and use of SAR assets to support operations at the local, state or federal level.
 - Lead ground SAR activities and wide area search missions.
 - Coordinate aerial SAR missions with the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center,

Civil Air Patrol, Virginia Department of State Police, Virginia National Guard, and other aviation assets that may be available.

- Coordinate maritime SAR with U.S. Coast Guard, Wildlife Resources, and other maritime SAR agencies as appropriate.
 - Coordinate urban search and rescue (US&R) operations with state technical rescue teams, Virginia US&R Task Force 1, Virginia US&R Task Force 2, FEMA, the Virginia National Guard, and other US&R response agencies.
 - Assist with the coordination of SAR assets for national or international SAR incidents upon request.
 - Serve as the state-level coordinating agency (Search and Rescue Coordination Center) for incidents involving civil aircraft presumed lost over Virginia air space.
 - Provide on-scene or direct coordination of specific SAR incidents during a declared emergency including, but not limited to:
 - Any incident at the request of the local jurisdiction;
 - Any incident that involves on-scene multi-state jurisdictional coordination; and
 - Any high-profile incidents involving state coordinated assets as determined by the State Coordinator of Emergency Management or his/her designee.
 - Provide trained and qualified Subject Matter Experts (SME) in incident command, operations, logistics, planning, finance, safety, and public information to include communications/interoperability and incident personnel sustainment and infrastructure.
- **ESF 10 Oil and Hazardous Materials**
 - Operate and maintain a state communications center to receive, prepare, and disseminate notifications, warnings, and associated protective actions to local, state and federal agencies involved in the response.
 - Deploy Hazardous Materials Officers (HMO) to an incident site to act as the State On-Scene Coordinator and provide guidance and coordination among on-scene agencies.
 - Provide manpower to support the collection, analysis, and assessment for spill response.
 - Coordinate needs assessment and damage assessment operations following an incident.
 - Provide technical assistance and information on the environment including atmospheric release of hazardous materials and information on protective actions.
 - **ESF 12 Energy**
 - Collect, evaluate, and share information on damaged energy systems and estimate the impact within the affected areas.
 - Coordinate the implementation of voluntary and mandatory energy conservation measures once the governor has declared a state of emergency.
 - **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate with the news media, localities, and other stakeholders to promote emergency preparedness.

- Activate the Virginia 2-1-1 System contract to provide a public information call center during disasters or emergencies.
 - Establish and coordinate a JIC for receiving and disseminating information to the public, state, and local public information officers during a disaster or emergency.
 - Establish the Virginia Public Information Center.
 - Manage information sharing with local and state elected officials through the Legislative Liaison function.
- **ESF 17 Volunteer and Donations Management**
 - Provide a Volunteer and Donations Coordinator to serve as the State Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL) and work in collaboration with the FEMA VAL.
 - Coordinate with appropriate agencies and organizations (local, state, tribal, federal, and/or private sector) to ensure unaffiliated volunteers and unsolicited donations are effectively managed or utilized during an incident.

7.1.4.9.5 Department of Fire Programs

The Department of Fire Programs is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 4 Firefighting**
 - Provide liaison as needed with local fire services.
 - Provide fire and specialized rescue support to incidents as needed or requested.
 - Provide specialized training for structural fire suppression and advanced incident management as appropriate.
- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 7 Logistics**
 - Provide staffing for the Logistics Section.
- **ESF 9 Special Operations**
 - Support requests for SAR assets within their capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols, and statutes as required.
 - Provide Incident Management Team support for all-risk incidents throughout the Commonwealth.

- **ESF 15 External Affairs**

- Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
- Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
- Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.6 Virginia Department of State Police (VSP)

The Virginia Department of State Police is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 1 Transportation**

- Provide rotary and fixed wing aircraft for reconnaissance operations and transportation of personnel (aviation).
- Identify communication requirements for the STARS state agencies involved. Assign specific STARS Talk-Groups to be used based on communication and agency participation assessments.
- Develop a comprehensive communications plan based on NIMS/ICS Standards and submit ICS-205 and ICS-205T.
- Deploy technical personnel for Mobile Command Posts and STARS Transportable Communications System (TCS).
- Provide technical communications personnel for support of VEOC operations.
- Coordinate communications requirements and activations of interoperable communications with other localities and agencies utilizing COMLINC, ORION, or other resources as made available in VEOC Operations Plan.

- **ESF 2 Communication**

- Provide a technical communication representative to support communication operations.
- Operate and maintain the STARS radio system.
- Provide communications equipment and other resources as needed.

- **ESF 4 Firefighting**

- Coordinate evacuation with VDOF, local governing officials and law enforcement personnel.
- Provide back-up field communications and emergency radio repair.
- Provide command post support.
- Assist local law enforcement agencies in providing security, traffic control, and law enforcement at incident location.
- Provide rotor and fixed wing aircraft for fire suppression and reconnaissance operations and transportation of fire personnel.
- Assist in the investigation of fires.

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**

- Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
- Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one

alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.

- Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 6 Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Human Services and Housing Referral**
 - Provide support as directed and as outlined in the Commonwealth Family Assistance Center plan.
 - Provide security at State Coordinated Regional Shelters (SCRS).
 - Coordinate agency responsibilities assigned in the Commonwealth of Virginia State Coordinated Regional Shelter Plan.
 - **ESF 8 Public Health and Medical**
 - Provide security for Strategic National Stockpile (SNS); secure movement of needed blood and blood product supply; and quarantine enforcement assistance, if necessary.
 - Establish an adult missing persons call center and assist in disposition of cases.
 - Share missing person data with appropriate agencies in support of identification of the dead and seriously wounded.
 - Supports local death scene investigations and evidence recovery.
 - Conduct casualty notification services when requested by the OCME.
 - **ESF 9 Special Operations**
 - Support requests for SAR assets within their capabilities and within the parameters of other operational commitments, existing agreements, protocols, and statutes as required.
 - **ESF 13 Public Safety and Security**
 - Provide law enforcement personnel and services at the incident location including life-saving actions, scene security, investigative services, and initial assessment of the need for additional resources.
 - Assist local law enforcement to provide personnel and specialized services to include but not limited to field communications, aircraft support, and command post resources.
 - Provide a coordinated response effort during disaster incidents through the allocation of personnel in security staffing, traffic control, and evacuation procedures.
 - Provide primary and supportive investigative services throughout the Commonwealth.
 - Request other ESF 13 agencies to participate in intelligence sharing and the allocation of specific resources, as necessary.
 - Maintain and operate the Virginia Fusion Center to mitigate intelligence gaps and

ensure sharing of resources, expertise, and information between all levels of local, state, and federal partners to identify, detect, prevent, and respond to terrorist and criminal activity.

- The Virginia Fusion Center shall provide timely intelligence, analysis, and information sharing among all response agencies.
- The Virginia Fusion Center shall support and staff the Planning Section Intel Group, or staff an Intel Section, depending on the incident organization, as requested.
- Provide investigative and technical support during biological/chemical attacks and HAZMAT situations in a variety of environments.

- **ESF 15 External Affairs**

- Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
- Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
- Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.7 Commonwealth's Attorney's Services Council

The Commonwealth's Attorney's Services Council is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**

- Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
- Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
- Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
- Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.

- **ESF 15 External Affairs**

- Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
- Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
- Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.8 Department of Forensic Science

The Department of Forensic Science is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**

- Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.

- Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.9 Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)

The Department of Juvenile Justice is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific emergency plans.
 - Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.

7.1.4.9.10 Virginia Parole Board

The Virginia Parole Board is assigned the following duties:

- **ESF 5 Emergency Coordination, Information And Planning**
 - Appoint a VEST Liaison Officer and at least one alternate to serve as the primary point of contact for all disaster preparedness, response and recovery matters.
 - Appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) and at least one alternate responsible for the development and maintenance of agency-specific

emergency plans.

- Appoint a public information officer to staff the VEST Joint Information Center at the request of VDEM and coordinate emergency public information with VDEM during states of emergency.
 - Support recovery operations as outlined in the COVEOP Statewide Recovery Support Annex.
- **ESF 15 External Affairs**
 - Coordinate emergency-related public information with the Joint Information Center using the Joint Information System.
 - Provide staff to the Joint Information Center when requested.
 - Public Information Officers will distribute any disaster-related information to their partners, the public, and external audience when received.